

Message

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: 1/12/2017 5:53:08 PM
To: Dorka, Lilian [Dorka.Lilian@epa.gov]; Garbow, Avi [Garbow.Avi@epa.gov]; Mccarthy, Gina [McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov]
CC: tgalloni@earthjustice.org; Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Subject: Uniontown Needs OCR to Act Now

Dear Lilian, Avi and Gina:

We are complainants in Uniontown's Title VI complaint against the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), and we write to request that you take action now in response to our complaint. This email is to supplement the requests made by our attorneys on behalf of all complainants out of a desire to leave no stone unturned in the effort to urge OCR to take action.

We had a conversation via telephone conference call with the Office of Civil Rights on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, and we appreciate it. However, it is time for action.

We believe there is enough evidence to make a legally defensible case for a finding of discrimination as, among other violations of our civil rights, both ADEM and its permittee, Green Group Holdings, have broken federal and state laws. In violation of Title VI, ADEM failed to consider the minority and low income composition of the community when it first approved, then modified and renewed the landfill's permit, knowingly subjecting this poor, African American community to a disproportionate burden of environmental problems. In violation of Alabama state law, Green Group Holdings allowed its staff at Arrowhead Landfill to trespass on the adjacent New Hope Church Cemetery property and to desecrate the graves with heavy equipment, yet ADEM has denied responsibility for the actions of its permittee in the cemetery. In addition, Green Group Holdings retaliated against the undersigned complainants by filing a \$30 million SLAPP suit against us and, again, ADEM has refused to take responsibility for this attempt by its permittee to intimidate and silence us, which violates federal law.

Please fulfill your responsibility in the Office of Civil Rights and act now before it is too late. Please do not leave this complaint pending for the next administration.

We urge you to make a finding of discrimination against ADEM now in response to our complaint. As Representative Cedric Richmond said in Congress yesterday, "Be courageous or be complicit."

Thank you for your consideration of our very deep concerns.

Sincerely,

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